

SPANKING AWAITS BROKER'S SON WHO ELOPED TO JERSEY

17-Year-Old Albert Henry
Combs Married Miss Berger
at Summit.

WERE SEPARATED ONCE.

Father Sent Youngster Off to
School and Told Him
to Forget It.

A wholesome dose of strap-on awaits the homecoming of Albert Henry Combs, seventeen-year-old son of H. B. Combs, the wealthy broker of No. 25 Broad street, and who resides at No. 47 West Forty-ninth street. Albert has eloped. He eloped Friday night last with Miss Mildred Helen Berger of Milwaukee, Wis., who has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. E. J. Wagner of No. 45 West Forty-ninth street. Not a word has been heard from either of the young elopers. Efforts to locate them have been unavailing. To Papa Combs is just waiting, waiting.

Albert has been attending a preparatory school at Fairfield, Conn. Since he is about two years older than Albert, they have been infatuated for about two months. The Combs family knows nothing of Miss Berger. All they know is that Albert was infatuated with a girl by that name.

The Combs family received a hint of what was coming last month when Albert broke the news to his father that he was engaged and wanted to get married. When Papa Combs recovered sufficiently to speak he ordered his son and heir to go back to school and forget about such things as "puppy love" and the like. Instead of receiving funds from his father with which to wed Albert got \$150 and strict orders to go back to school and behave himself.

YOUNGSTERS COULD NOT BEAR
THE SEPARATION.

Albert and Mildred wrote letters by the ream. Their loving hearts could not bear the separation. Fairfield, Conn., and New York seemed as far apart as the poles. They determined to thwart Albert's stern parent and elope.

Albert has been returning from school to the home of his parents every Friday night for the week end. As usual he appeared last Friday evening. He went out shortly afterward, and since then nothing has been seen of him. But from Summit, N. J., comes the news of the wedding of Albert and Mildred.

There was some difficulty in obtaining a license. Although Albert is but seventeen he is tall for his age and finally he won the legal consent for the marriage. They visited the home of Rev. Robert C. Hull, a Baptist clergyman, and persuaded him to make their loving hearts one.

William P. Williams the chauffeur of an automobile that Albert had hired, acted as best man. Miss Atalie L. Rowe, City Clerk Rowe's daughter, acted as bridesmaid.

GIRL'S AUNT WAS AWAY WHEN
THEY ELOPED.

Mrs. Wagner, aunt of Mildred, said to-day that she was out of the city on Friday and did not learn of her niece's disappearance until the next day. She said she had met young Combs on a few occasions. Neither she nor the Combs family know how Albert and Mildred first became acquainted.

Mrs. Wagner said word to Mildred's mother in Milwaukee, and is anxiously awaiting news from her niece. Papa Combs cannot appreciate the romance in the situation. It is all grim reality to him, and at the office in Broad street it is predicted that Albert is in for an old-fashioned spanking when he comes on the horizon. Albert is not known to have much money, unless he has been saving up his allowances for some time. Both households in New York expect that the lack of finances will bring the children home to seek forgiveness.

HENRY WOODRUFF DYING.

Actor, Once Reported Engaged to
Anna Gould, Stricken in West.

Henry Woodruff, the actor, who starred in "Brown of Harvard," is dying at French Lick Springs, Ind., of epilepsy. News of his condition reached the "Lumber" Club last night, and Frederick Curry, one of the members, left for French Lick Springs to-day to see what help the club could give. Woodruff, who is forty-two, began his stage career at the age of nine as a chorus boy in Harry's juvenile "Pinafore" company, and after playing with Edwin Booth and other leading actors, left the stage for a while to go to Harvard. Some years ago it was rumored that he was to marry Anna Gould, who later became the Countess de Castiglione and is now the Princess de Sagan.

TORNADO'S DEATH SWEEP.

Ten Killed and Scores of Buildings
Wrecked in Louisiana.

GILBERT, La., April 30.—Ten persons were killed and a score injured in a tornado sweeping over three parishes of Louisiana early to-day. Scores of buildings were wrecked, resulting in heavy property damage.

The dead include Sidney Ross, ten years old, killed at Gilbert in Franklin Parish; G. L. Ross was crushed to death under a falling building. Eight men working in the fields were killed.

Hobbles Have Nothing to Do with Knock-Knees; Women Always Knock-Kneed, Says Doctor

German Surgeon Lays the
Blame on the Narrow
Dress Contraption, but
an American Expert
Asserts They Were That
Way Before Tight Skirts
Were Known.

Dr. Charles L. Wheeler
Attributes Deformities
to Tight, High-Heeled
Shoes, Tight Lacing and
Tights Worn as Substi-
tutes for Proper Kinds
of Undergarments.

By Nixola Greeley-Smith.



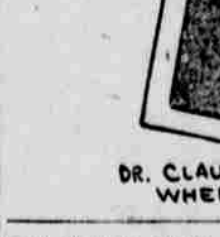
They all knew it, but now actually a man has dared to say it. Of course, it would take a member of the most disillusioned profession in the most ungallant nation of the earth to state that most women are knock-kneed. And Dr. Karl Francke, eminent surgeon of Munich, has qualified for the title, and incidentally for denunciation by women all over the world, by asserting that feminine knees are seldom parallel, in fact that they converge rapidly to the ungraceful meeting which the unscientific describe as "knock-knees."

Dr. Francke blames the tight skirt for what he terms woman's increasing tendency to knock knees, and, a storm of criticism having been blown up by his declaration, he has brought forth figures to prove his point.

Three-fourths of all children are knock-kneed when they are three years old, Dr. Francke says, but in 90 per cent. of boys who have the free use of their legs the knock knees disappear, while they continue and are aggravated in 82 per cent. of women because the tight-



DR. WHEELER SAYS HIGH HEELS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS CAVE-IN



DR. CLAUDE L. WHEELER

ness of their skirts impedes feminine motion.

Dr. Claude L. Wheeler, associate editor of the New York Medical Journal, was not inclined to take Dr. Francke's declaration very seriously when I saw him in his office at No. 90 Broadway.

AMERICAN DOCTOR SAYS NORMAL WOMAN IS KNOCK-KNEED.

"Certainly most women are knock-kneed," Dr. Wheeler agreed with his German colleague. "In fact, I may say that the normal woman is knock-kneed. But when I studied physiology we were taught that the knock knees of woman were due to the different setting of her pelvic bones, to their greater breadth and the consequent convergence of the thighs."

"The style of the tight skirt are very real," Dr. Wheeler added, "but I don't believe they have anything to do with knock knees. If that were true, knock knees would be a development of the last five or ten years, instead of being always with us."



DO HOBBLERS MAKE THEM KNEED?

and, in impeding a woman's motions, they make her more liable to accident in entering and leaving vehicles, going

up and down stairs, etc. I was wondering the other day if the street car with low steps, which has just been introduced in New York, is the direct outcome of the fashion of hobble skirts.

One indirect result, of course, is the general discarding of underwear by women—the substitution of tights for undershirts. No undergarment is sanitary that is not white, because no undergarment is changed often enough for

health unless it is white. Tights are unsanitary for the same reason.

TIGHT SHOES AND HIGH HEELS DEFORM MEN AND WOMEN.

"But the evils caused by tight skirts are not comparable in number or importance to those which result from the wearing of tight shoes, and both men and women are guilty of this foolish vanity. Eminent French surgeons have said, and I fully agree with their conclusions, that many of the ailments which women regard as peculiar to their sex are directly traceable to the wearing of high heels. The high French heel puts an abnormal weight on the muscles of the calf and subjects the entire nervous system to a severe strain. 'Most young fellows wear shoes that are too tight for them. I did when I was a young doctor up in Montreal, and I found that I was always taking hacks when I had to travel more than a block or so. Then one day a gleam of intelligence induced me to buy a pair of anatomical shoes that were big enough for me, and I found I could walk any distance without fatigue. 'Flat foot' is caused by the wearing of shoes that are too small. I know of a young fellow who was rejected at the Naval Academy not long ago because of 'flat foot' caused by wearing tight shoes."

"It would not be accurate to state that hobblers are superior hygienically to skirts," Dr. Wheeler added. "In pre-Christian civilization men wore skirts, the Greeks and Romans wore togas, as you know. They tucked them up when they fought, and they discarded them in their athletic games, but they got along together just as well as men do to-day."

"Then you do not regard masculine garments as superior hygienically to those worn by women?" I inquired.

"Not at all," Dr. Wheeler answered. "There are many features of modern feminine dress which men might borrow with great advantage to their health. There is the cool and comfortable Dutch neck waist, for example. And the so-called peek-a-boo waist has its advantages in summer, as it is healthy to expose the skin to the air. In the next number of the Medical Journal I have an editorial recommending summer un-

derwear for men, which would be built exactly like pajamas, leaving the neck cool and comfortable. But I suppose the vanity of the young fellows will make them keep on wearing those stiff starched, uncomfortable things which they consider good form even in August."

WOMEN'S RATS CARRY DEATH TO THEIR FAMILIES.

"There is one form of folly of which women have a practical monopoly," Dr. Wheeler concluded. "That is in the wearing of false hair. The fashionable woman's rats and puffs are hotbeds of microbes—nests of germs, and many a mother has carried death into her own home in the false hair on her head. The big hat is not unsanitary except when it weighs too much. And, as I said before, I think nature and not the hobble skirt is responsible for the knock knees of women."

"It may interest your readers to know that just as Dr. Francke is thundering against tight garments, an East Indian physician is laying all the ills of India on the Western garments worn by men."

"In the April number of La Tribune Medicale, Dr. Hari Mohan Sen of Dinapore says: 'Our dress requires modification; a loose superfluous dress is not only an impediment to movements and actions—it induces laziness and relaxation. A tight dress is a great support and it stimulates to action.'"

So while doctors disagree women can go on wearing tight skirts and knocking everything on earth including their own knees if they happen to feel like it, or are built that way.

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